

105 "Tremendous interest in property, together with a simple and declin-
181 ing culture, results in my being a seriously disturbing element in their
421 lives. Casual conversation always degenerates into a squabble about
[578] gift-giving There is intense pleasure in possession. Children get
[431] no sympathy when they are hurt, but objects are usually given to them.
[855] Every child has the right at least 'to see' anything he desires. In this
respect children are pampered. Adults whine for things; withholding
a desired object makes them intensely unhappy. Aggressive possession
is admired. Trade games make the exchange of property very fluid.
[437] Yet values in trade are well defined, and there is no prestige in giving
[524] more than one gets. Within the kinship circle, however, the old lavish
[858] property on the young. A father's garden is spoken of as that of his five
[431] year old son. There is a deliberate attempt to instill aggressive ownership
[865] attitudes in the young. A three year old girl is taught to claim objects in
a loud voice. This is done by shouting the possessive pronoun....

105 "These are a settled people who live within the strict limits of their
[361] village. Their small number has advantage in the study of individuals.
They have no knowledge of the world beyond the Kuluene-Kuliseu. It
has no more real existence than the various inhabited regions of the
heavens. The half dozen expeditions which have passed down the river
have communicated with the natives only with signs. The one important
result of such contact was division from peripheral tribes and the rise of
[924] metal tools. The disappearance of the stone industry, on which a defunct
[182] Trumai moiety had a monopoly, has occurred within the last generation.¹
The increased leisure which probably resulted is not utilized economically.

105 "The complete lack of self-consciousness among these people makes
123 behavior observation remarkably easy. Before I knew any of the
156 language, I could sit by the hour in various households and time the
actions of people while they paid no attention to me. For instance, one
man during twenty minutes of leisure lay down to rest in his hammock
fifteen different times, but each time disturbed himself with the re-
membrance of some petty chore undone....

[867] "The only restriction of behavior that I have seen in casual intra-
village personal relations is that the children are told not to litter the
105 floor. The only positive rule is that the head of a household must sit
[574] with a guest and converse while the guest is inside his house
[833] Furthermore, extra-marital sexual intercourse has occurred in a sha-
dowy corner of my house.. This lack of self-consciousness contrasts
strongly with the Karajá, who are more prudish than the Fijians....

105 "Shortage of women, because of theft of young women, polygamy,
162 lack of sexual interest in old wives (of which there are several), and
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[16] ¹ Quain refers here to the moiety-like division of the Trumai which has been
discussed in Chapter Three. This appears to be rather a result of the merger of the
northern and southern Trumai villages. The latter specialized in axe-making.